GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1502
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2002
TIGHTENING OF EMIGRATION RULES BY NEW ZEALAND
N.N. KRISHNADAS

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether New Zealand has tightened emigration rules;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this has affected Indian job seekers; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the government to tackle this problem?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government of New Zealand has announced a minor change in the immigration policy in respect of those who seek residence in New Zealand under `work category` and the change is applicable to all overseas nationals.

(b) Overseas nationals applying for permanent residence in New Zealand under the General Skills Category require a total passmark of 28 points, instead of 25 points, w.e.f. June 18, 2002.

(c) The change has not affected those with skilled job offers relevant to their qualification or work experience.

(d) As this change in the New Zealand`s immigration laws is not country specific and is applicable to all overseas nationals, the matter has not been taken up with the New Zealand Government.